

2226), to provide additional transparency and accountability for spending on conferences and meetings of the Department of Agriculture, Coburn Amendment No. 2248 (to Amendment No. 1908), to prohibit no-bid contracts and grants, and Kohl Amendment No. 2288 (to Amendment No. 2248), to provide requirements regarding the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to enter into certain contracts, were not germane, and the amendments thus fell.

Pages S8711, S8716, S8718–19, S8719

Chair sustained a point of order that the following amendment was not germane post-cloture, and the amendment thus fell: Brownback (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 2240 (to Amendment No. 1908), to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a State-by-State analysis of the impacts on agricultural producers of the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (H.R. 2452, as passed by the House of Representatives on June 26, 2009).

Pages S8711, S8723

By 60 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 260), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion, under section 904 of the Congressional Budget act of 1974, to waive provisions of the Act for consideration of Sanders Amendment No. 2276 (to Amendment No. 1908), to modify the amount made available for the Farm Service Agency. Subsequently, the point of order that the amendment would provide spending in excess of the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation was not sustained, and the point of order raised was rendered moot.

Pages S8726–27

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Kohl, Harkin, Dorgan, Feinstein, Durbin, Johnson, Nelson (NE), Reed, Pryor, Specter, Inouye, Brownback, Bennett, Cochran, Bond, McConnell, Collins, and Shelby.

Page S8730

Military Spouses Residency Relief Act: Senate passed S. 475, to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency.

Page S8778

Recognizing Noncommissioned Officers of the United States Army: Committee on Armed Services was discharged from further consideration of H.J. Res. 44, recognizing the service, sacrifice, honor, and professionalism of the Noncommissioned Officers of the United States Army, and the resolution was then passed, clearing the measure for the President.

Page S8778

National Purple Heart Recognition Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 239, supporting the goals and ideals of "National Purple Heart Recognition Day".

Pages S8778–79

National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 240, designating September 9, 2009, as "National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day".

Page S8779

Sotomayor Nomination—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor, of New York, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Pages S8730–55

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at 10 a.m., on Wednesday, August 5, 2009, with the debate time until 2 p.m. divided in one hour alternating blocks of time, with the Majority controlling the first hour; provided further, that the time from 2–3 p.m., be equally divided and controlled with the Majority controlling the first 30 minutes, and the Republicans controlling the final 30 minutes; that at 3 p.m., Senate stand in recess until 5 p.m., and that upon reconvening at 5 p.m., Senate resume the one hour alternating blocks of time with the Republicans controlling the first hour.

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Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Patricia A. Butenis, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Maldives.

Alfonso E. Lenhardt, of New York, to be Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania.

Pamela Jo Howell Slutz, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi.

Miguel Humberto Diaz, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Holy See.

Jerry P. Lanier, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda.

James B. Smith, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Samuel Louis Kaplan, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco.

Charles Aaron Ray, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Gayleatha Beatrice Brown, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso.

Fay Hartog-Levin, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Patricia Newton Moller, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea.